No. 115

THE Countries Addreſs TO THE *LORDS SPIRITUAL* in *PARLIAMENT.*

My LORDS,

YOUR Prepoſterous Dealings, and Evident Prevarications, are not only the Wonder, but Aſtoniſhment of all Honeſt Men, within this Nation. And truly, as the greateſt part of you hitherto, have behaved your ſelves liker State-ſophiſters, than ſound, Well-meaning Divines, whoſe main deſign was God's Glory, the Preſervation of his Church, and Peoples Good; ſo now do you diſcover your ſelves Sciſmaticks and Incendiaries, who would divide the Kingdom againſt it ſelf, ſet the Nation on Fire, and Sacrifice both Church and State, to your ſeduced Appetites, and Self-intereſt. Were not you they, who not only Invited, but Importun'd the *Prince of ORANGE*; (yea, pray'd to God to put it in his Heart) to hazard Life and Fortune, for the Preſervation of your Religion, Lives, Laws, Liberties and Eſtates, *&c.* and are you now become ſo ungrate Monſters of humanity, as to requite, yea, baffle him (by whom God hath wrought ſo great and miraculous Deliverance) thus? And is it fit this populous Nation ſhould be led in matters of Faith, by ſuch unſettled, jealous-pated Weather-cocks, as know not their own minds, and can ſtand ſtedfaſt to nothing; but objecting againſt their own Overtures, oppoſe for Oſtentation, Vain-glory, and to look Big, the ſureſt and beſt Propoſals, which God hath laid before us for the Kingdoms Peace? as *Heroſtratus* deſired to be reputed famous, by burning that wonderful Church which he himſelf had built. Is your Intellectual Glaſs a falſifying Perſpective? Or is the other end turned to your Eye? Is the great *Objectum Attributionis*, the *Oppoſing of Popery*, and Preſervation of the *Church of England*, turn'd to a *Neceſſarium ſecundum quid*? Is the Worthy, Valiant, Victorious, and Triumphant *Prince* (who was the ſure Remedy, and Reſtorer both of Church and State) become your Eye-ſore? And the grant of your Prayers, a ſcruple of Conſcience? Cannot the Religious *Orange* down with you, nor reliſh your ſqueamiſh and liquoriſh Appetites and Stomachs now, without a Dram of the Whore's Abominable Cup? Laying aſide Conſcience and Religion, with his Royal Deſcent, Bare common Civility might prompt you to be more than thankful to ſo Worthy a Perſon, whoſe very Behaviour, Parts, Prudence, ſober Life and Magnanimity, have extorted Love, Duty and Reſpect, from his greateſt Enemies, and ſtrangers of greater repute than Men of your Birth and mean Pedegree. But *Nihil dat alteri, quod in ſe not habet.* And as it was ſaid of the baſe-born, beggarly Pope, *Urban* VI. *Aſperious miſero nihil eſt, qui ſurgit in altum*; ſo may it be ſaid of you. *Corde ſtat inflato pauper honore dato. Mali Corvi malum Ovum. Patrem ſequitur ſua proles.* But I think it no Soliciſm in Civility, nor Paradox in Divinity (without any reflexion on thoſe Noble Biſhops, whoſe Divine Prudence hath proved their Zeal and Pious Care, for God and their Country) to tell thoſe Ignoble, Inferiour, Upſtart, Canting, Seditious, Never Contented, Unlearned, Brawling, Back-biting, Church and State betraying Biſhops (who would *Lord it over God's Heritage*, and put the heavy Yoak of Anti-chriſtian *Popery* on the Kingdoms Neck; which we nor our Fore-fathers were able to bear) that they are the *Enemies of the Croſs of Chriſt*, and of their own Country. And that men of their Lineage, know not how to behave themſelves in State Affairs, with perſons of innate Candour, and unſpotted Clemency, above the ruſtick Sphere of a *Gaffar* and *Gammar*. And, although you pretend to be the Teachers of others, you your ſelves ſtand in need of a School-maſter, to teach you the firſt principles of good Breeding and Religion. Pope *Julius* III. was (as ſome of you were) promoted, *a Rhemo ad Tribunal*; and yet, as all Hiſtorians Record, he was the greateſt of Tyrants, and more imperious than any of his Anceſtors. Yea, it is reported by *John Functius*, in his Commentaries, that in ſeven years ſpace, he was the occaſion of the Murdering 200000 Chriſtians. You trace his foot-ſteps, threatning the Nation with Diviſion and Civil War, which (as our Saviour ſaith) is the ſureſt means to over-throw both us and our Religion; eſpecially in ſuch a dangerous time as this. But it is a Country Proverb, *Dogs make Swine agree*: The Rabble let looſe would be a good Scar-crow, to frighten ſuch black Birds of prey to their right ſenſes, and to know themſelves; and not preſume to tranſgreſs their Limits, nor elevate their Judgments above the low Sphere of their ſhallow Capacities. But why ſhould *Paſſion* eclipſe *Reaſon*? What can we expect but a prepoſterous Order, when by an Hyperbolick *Hyſteron-Proteron*, the heels of the Nation are ſet upmoſt. And, to ſpeak as freely as you act, ſeveral of you are fitter for the *Plough* than a Houſe of *Peers*. Neither is this more than hath been foretold by Chriſt and his Apoſtles, *viz.* That in the latter days, ſhould be ſeducing *Prophets, Wolves in Sheeps Clothing, Men carnally minded, and deſtitute of the Spirit, Wells without Water, Clouds carried about with every Tempeſt, Wandring Stars of Apoſtacy, heedy, high-minded, covetous, not feeding, but devouring both Flock and Paſture, following the way of* Balaam, *who loved the wages of Unrighteouſneſs, and the Praiſe of Men, more than the Glory of the inviſible God.* And truly, your pride makes it evident, that you have no leſs Ambition for Superiority, than *John* of *Conſtantinople* had for Supremacy. Remember *Tower-Hill*, *Jan.* 10. 1644.

Felix quem faciunt aliena pericula cautum.

William Ploughſhear, } *Farmers in* Kent.
Richard Wheelbarrow, }

With Allowance.

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